Eriogonum viscidulum J. T. Howell

STICKY BUCKWHEAT

FAMILY: *Polygonaceae*, the buckwheat family.

STATUS: Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G2 S2

USFWS/ESA: species of concern. **STATE OF NEVADA:** FULLY PROTECTED. **BLM:** Special Status Species in Nevada. **USFS:** none. **NNNPS:** THREATENED.

POPULATION CENSUS (NEVADA): 29 occurrences mapped at 1.0 km (0.6 mi) separation, OR **37 occurrences mapped** at 0.16 km (0.1 mi) separation; total estimated **individuals 25,000**+, total estimated **area unknown**. **TREND:** unknown.

IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS (NEVADA): No summary available (see references).

INVENTORY EFFORT (NEVADA): Systematic surveys have been extensive in Nevada, but likely remain incomplete. Most recent entered survey 1998, average year of last survey 1989. Years since last entered survey (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): 0-5 yrs: 8.1%; 6-10 yrs: 54.1%; 11-20 yrs: 10.8%; 21-30 yrs: 24.3%; 51+ yrs or unknown: 2.7%.

LAND MANAGEMENT (NEVADA) in decreasing predominance: U. S. Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, private lands, Nevada state lands (?).

RANGE: Clark and Lincoln counties, Nevada; also in AZ. Maximum Nevada **range dimension 75.5 km (46.9 mi)** excluding most disjunct record.

ELEVATIONS RECORDED (NEVADA): 1200-2200 feet (366-671 meters).

HABITAT (NEVADA): Deep loose sandy soils in washes, flats, roadsides, steep aeolian slopes, and stabilized dune areas, with Ambrosia dumosa, Larrea tridentata, Pleuraphis rigida, Krameria parvifolia, Achnatherum hymenoides, Tamarix ramosissima, Tessaria sericea, Astragalus geyeri var. triquetrus, A. sabulonum, Eriogonum trichopes, Ephedra torreyana, Dicoria canescens, Pediomelum, Croton californicus, Sporobolus cryptandrus, Psorothamnus fremontii, Abronia, Tiquilia, etc. Can withstand moderate temporary disturbance. Dependent on sand dunes or deep sand in Nevada.

PHENOLOGY: flowering spring. Range of most frequent survey months: April-June.

LIFE-FORM AND HABIT: annual.

DESCRIPTION: An annual herb, up to 4 dm tall, with diffusely branched stems rising from a basal rosette of leaves. Small yellow flowers bloom in April and May. The stems and branches are slightly sticky and are often covered with adhering sand particles. **Distinguishing features:** Related to Eriogonum subreniforme, may be distinguished from all related annual species by the viscid glandularity of the stems and branches.

PHOTOGRAPHS: Niles et al. (1995); Nevada Natural Heritage Program images web page (1998-present).

ILLUSTRATIONS: Mozingo and Williams (1980), Niles et al. (1995).

OTHER GENERAL REFERENCES (listed separately): Holland et al. (1980), Niles et al. (1997), Niles et al. (1998), Reveal (1985).

SPECIFIC REFERENCES:

Howell, J. T. 1942. New western plants. Leaflets of Western Botany 3: 138-142.

Leary, P. J. 1987. Survey of endangered plants, Joshua Tree National Monument. Las Vegas: University of Nevada report CPSU/UNLV 037/01. 26pp.

Niles, W. E., P. J. Leary, J. S. Holland, F. H. Landau. 1995. Occurrence and distribution of Astragalus geyeri var. triquetrus (three-cornered milkvetch) and Eriogonum viscidulum (sticky buckwheat) in Lake Mead National Recreation Area and adjacent regions of Nevada and Arizona. Las Vegas: University of Nevada, prepared for the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.